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Contact: Oversight and Government Reform Press Office, 202-225-5051 **Chairman**

Towns Investigates Iraq and Afghanistan Reconstruction Subcontractor Oversight

Washington, DC – Chairman Edolphus “Ed” Towns (D-NY) today announced that he requested information from the Department of Defense (DoD) on all current DoD contracts that have been awarded for work being performed in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Committee is investigating the government’s use of contractors in Iraq and Afghanistan, and their oversight of subcontractors. The request coincides with the Committee’s ongoing investigation into wartime contracting.

Chairman Towns has directed Committee staff to closely examine mechanisms for monitoring contractors and subcontractors. Specifically, Chairman Towns is concerned that subcontractors performing Reconstruction efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan lack the transparency and oversight necessary to ensure that projects funded by the United States government are being carried out effectively, efficiently and in the best interest of the government.

As part of the investigation, the Committee has requested details of the Defense Department’s procedures for ensuring contractors and their subcontractors, including subcontractor personnel and business systems, are “meeting the Department’s mission, goals, and objectives.”

In his letter to Secretary Gates, Chairman Towns writes, “it is imperative that the procuring agencies establish effective internal controls and oversight mechanisms to ensure that resources are being spent appropriately, and are not flowing into the hands of corrupt individuals or companies that could compromise national security and/or the safety and security of our soldiers and citizens.”

A copy of the letter from Chairman Towns to Defense Secretary Gates is below.

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Documents and Links

[Letter from Chairman Towns to Secretary Gates](#)